



NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Transportation

Improving Mobility Across California

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INCREASED ENFORCEMENT TO START ON STATE ROUTE 18 "NARROWS" WORK ZONE

CRESTLINE – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in cooperation with the California Highway Patrol (CHP) will begin enforcement activity within the 3-mile segment of flood-damaged State Route 18 through "the Narrows." Vehicles, motorcyclists, bicyclists, pedestrians and roller skaters will be cited if they trespass within the work area.

The severely damaged highway is an active construction zone and dangerous to the public. The unstable roadway is being rebuilt using heavy equipment traversing what is left of the roadbed. This area is not open to the public. The CHP will not issue warnings; violators will be cited for trespassing.

The \$8 million project is anticipated to be complete in mid summer 2004. Work will include reconstruction of several sections of undermined roadway, drainage system improvements, installation of additional debris catch fencing for uphill slope stabilization and guardrail replacement throughout the damaged stretch of SR-18 from State Route 138 to Crest Forest Drive.

Work is being performed 6 days a week, Mondays through Saturdays for the duration of the project. Work hours will be from approximately 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. The work zone is off-limits at all times even when work crews are not present. "This action is being taken purely out of concern for the public's safety", stated Mike Perovich, Caltrans Deputy Director of Construction.

Caltrans is urging the public's cooperation to stay out of the work zone for their safety. The work crews are doing their best to restore the roadway to its original condition as quickly as possible.

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